

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Tom for many years. He is without peer and his calm demeanor and inspired leadership will be sorely missed.

While serving as President, Tom revamped Cañada College's planning process and turned it into a state leader in the accreditation process. He helped establish new four-year degrees in art, psychology, human services and business administration by forging new relationships with nearby Notre Dame de Namur University. Under Tom's watch, Cañada started the Center for Teacher Efficacy to provide professional development opportunities for San Mateo County high school teachers. He also developed an Honors Transfer Program designed to support highly motivated students as they pursue their educational goals.

Tom attracted more than \$3 million in grants for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education at the college, established the Veterans Resource and Opportunity Center, and expanded the school's study abroad program. For these and other accomplishments, President Mohr received the 2010 Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction from Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two year colleges.

Tom holds a Bachelor of Science from St. Louis University and a Master of Arts from the University of San Francisco. He has been an educator on the San Francisco Peninsula since working as a Chemistry teacher in the Jefferson Union High School District in 1961. Since then, Tom has served in nearly every capacity an educator can—teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, superintendent and most recently, college president.

Ironically, Tom thought he had retired six years ago when he left the San Mateo Union High School District. But, ever the public servant, when his community came calling, Tom answered. He agreed to serve as Cañada's President on an interim basis, not knowing that it would stretch into a six-year commitment.

Mr. Speaker, everyone in this body knows that there are no easy solutions to improving education in America. Were it only possible to clone a thousand or so Tom Mohrs, our nation's students would, indeed, be in capable hands. Since we can't do that, we are best served to simply follow his example and learn from the many lessons this lifelong educator has taught us.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON LEARNING CENTER ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I rise to congratulate The Booker T. Washington Learning Center as they reach their 25th milestone. This accomplishment has been achieved through dedication and committed service to the most vulnerable children and their families in my Congressional District.

Since 1986, thousands of families have found support, opportunity and resources that have made a life-changing difference through

the Booker T. Washington Learning Center. They have made it possible for people in my community to not only survive, but thrive. The center was originally founded under the parent organization, East Harlem Churches and Community Urban Center by Reverend Leroy Ricksy who decided to help four children being raised by their grandmother. Today, the learning center led by Executive Director, Reverend Kimberly Wright, has expanded its services to include an after school program, Saturday readings, adult education, summer camp, college preparation and support, and art therapy. There is a very personal approach taken at Booker T. They offer children, teens, and adults the extra that they need in order to find success.

The Learning Center is able to look back over these 25 years and feel proud of the investment that they have made in so many lives. They have watched their children grow up to be extremely responsible, hard working, and productive citizens. There are so many who have overcome learning disabilities, achieved academic success—even in a failing school system, graduated high school and gone on to college. It continues to be a cornerstone in my beloved East Harlem Community for families who would otherwise not be able to afford quality services for their children and have no place to turn. Their programs meet the needs of many who are in desperate need of guidance and academic support. The small group of young people the learning center started with are all enjoying their careers, their families, and their lives. They have overcome poverty and beaten the odds.

Booker T. could not exist if it were not for people who believe in our youngsters and their work. They are most fortunate in having the most dedicated group of staff and volunteers that continue to ensure that Booker T. offers quality enrichment programs that move people from poverty and despair to independence and hope.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating with the staff and wonderful volunteers at the Booker T. Washington Learning Center on their milestone. Let's encourage others to help programs like these to ensure that they continue to offer a helping hand to our fragile families and make certain that each child in our great nation find a second home, a second family, and a second school in our learning institutions.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE USE OF LIBYA'S FROZEN ASSETS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Libya's frozen assets be used to pay for humanitarian relief and military operations associated with the current conflict in that country.

Since Libyan dictator Muammar Qaddafi responded to peaceful demonstrations by attacking Libya's own citizens, the United States has been actively engaged with our international allies in thwarting the ability of the Qaddafi re-

gime to visit violence, murder, and destruction on the people of Libya. This past February, the United States imposed economic sanctions on Libya and froze the assets of its leadership, promising to hold Qaddafi, his family, and the government of Libya accountable for its human rights abuses. It is estimated that the value of these assets exceed \$30 billion.

On March 19, with the authority of the United Nations, the United States Armed Forces and our coalition partners launched Operation Odyssey Dawn in an effort to enforce the Security Council resolution. That mission has since come under NATO command and is now called Operation Unified Protector. Our Armed Forces have assisted in combat operations including providing intelligence, aerial refueling, targeting, and other aspects of NATO's daily bombardment of Libyan forces loyal to Qaddafi. We have already spent over one billion taxpayer dollars on this effort, with operations costing millions more every day.

When the United States recognized the Transitional National Council as the legitimate governing authority of Libya on July 15, it paved the way for the Council to access some of the frozen assets to be used for humanitarian relief and reconstruction efforts. With the Qaddafi regime at an end and the dictator himself on the run and in hiding, the United States will be moving into a posture that puts less emphasis on military operations and more focus on supporting the Transitional National Council's efforts to establish a working government.

The United States should pursue with the Council the viability of using some of those assets to reimburse NATO members for the cost of their military operations in support of the Libyan people. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRISBANE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the city of Brisbane, California. Nestled in the lower slopes of San Bruno Mountain, "the City of Stars" stands as a symbol of light in the Bay Area.

Back in the sixth century the Ohlone Indians enjoyed the abundance of resources the land offered. They thrived as hunters and gatherers until the Spanish conquistadores claimed the land in the early 16th century.

The deed to the land changed hands several times before any significant development occurred. The need for real estate triggered by the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake brought new focus to the valley. Developers immersed themselves in the area with new vigor, naming their new hope for future growth "Visitacion City."

It wasn't until the arrival of Arthur Annis that the town finally got off the ground. The "Daddy of Brisbane" came to the area in 1929, bringing hope to an area that desperately needed it. During the worst years of the Great Depression, Annis encouraged settlement and development through extremely cheap land prices. Between 1929 and 1933, over 400 homes were built.

Annis' signature contribution was the christening of Visitation City as Brisbane. There are two competing theories about how Annis chose the name Brisbane. His daughter insists he named it after the city in Australia, while others believe he named it after the American journalist Arthur Brisbane. Whatever its origins, the name Brisbane has come to mean a city that draws its strength from hope, even in the darkest times.

This strong spirit can be seen in the tradition from which Brisbane draws its nickname, the "City of Stars." In 1940, Brisbane prepared to employ its citizens in the ongoing war efforts and the future was once again uncertain. Resident Arthur Kennedy struck out against the doubt by placing a simple star above his house for the holiday season. Soon, this symbol of brightness could be found above many a house, and the tradition lives on today during every Christmas.

The city was incorporated in 1961. Since incorporation, Brisbane has had twenty-five mayors, including John Turner, James Williams, Jess Salmon, Ed Schwenderlauf, John Bell, Robert McLennan, S.J. Guardino, Julius Stern, Anja Miller, Art Montenegro, Paul Goercke, Jeannine Hodge, Don Bradshaw, Fred Smith, Bill Lawrence, Ray Miller, Lou Graham, Steve Waldo, Brad Kerwin, Lee Panza, Clara Johnson, W. Clarke Conway, Cyril Bologoff, Michael Barnes, and Sepi Richardson.

Brisbane also holds the distinction of being the first community in the United States in which a habitat conservation plan (HCP) was developed. This historic plan, developed in the 1980s, helped to save the Mission Blue butterfly and the Callippe Silverspot butterfly. The HCP served as a model for an amendment to the Endangered Species Act. In addition to legal protections related to land use, Brisbane's fog and ample rains succor the flora needed to create an environment in which these and other species of butterflies may roam largely unmolested over 3,000 acres of undeveloped land.

Brisbane's reputation as a can-do community received national attention in 1990 when residents came together to rescue Humphrey, a disoriented humpback whale who regularly became stranded at various locations around San Francisco Bay. When Humphrey found himself stuck on an embayment very close to Brisbane's Sierra Point, hundreds of Brisbane citizens gathered to cheer the Coast Guard and Humphrey onward towards the whale's successful extraction.

Brisbane hosts a thriving economy including a booming biotechnology sector, a popular harbor for private boats, and other more traditional businesses such as a 100-year-old manufacturer of fruit juices, A.C. Calderoni. Eventually, Brisbane will likely also be the site of a booming clean tech energy sector as the city redevelops vast parcels of unused lands near the bay. Brisbane's economy is so vibrant that the population of the city doubles during the workday.

While not every step in its history has been easy, its residents have always pressed towards the future. Even as it has grown from its decidedly humble origins to its current population of 4,282 residents, the sense of family and community that spurred its development has never diminished.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to join me in celebrating the history and future of the city of

Brisbane as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on September 10, 2011.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGARET
FUENTES GONZALEZ ZEPEDA OF
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Margaret Fuentes Gonzalez Zepeda on the occasion of her 96th birthday and tribute at the Guadalupe Community Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Born in 1915 Margaret "Margarita" Gonzalez was the daughter of Simon Gonzalez and Maria Fuentes Gonzalez. Margaret and her family grew up in San Antonio, and in April 1931, she married Manuel Zepeda, a union that would last 44 years, produce three girls and one boy.

Margaret worked for the San Antonio Housing Authority for over 20 years and rose to the position of Assistant Manager. Additionally, Margaret was extremely active in the community, and she used sports as a method to mentor San Antonio youth. Through sports Margaret developed a strong sense of discipline that she took to the Guadalupe Community Center and to the City of San Antonio as a recreation leader.

After retirement Margaret accelerated her own participation in sports, and in the late 1980s began her journey into the Senior Olympics. Since 1990 Margaret has participated in Senior Olympics in a variety of sports including: bowling; walking; horse shoes; softball and football for accuracy and distance; and each year has qualified for the National Games. At the age of 96, Margaret has won over 100 gold and silver medals. She has been to the National Games in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (twice); San Antonio, Texas; Tucson, Arizona; Orlando, Florida and has brought home the Gold or Silver (Tucson) every time.

Margaret Zepeda has a "never give up" spirit that impacted the self worth of each child she mentored. She instilled in them pride and discipline, and an understanding that love and command of sports was the great equalizer. For her half century of community work and leadership to the children of San Antonio, I join in celebrating the tribute hosted at the Guadalupe Community Center by the cadre of successful women who began their lives under the tutorage of Margaret Fuentes Gonzalez Zepeda.

TRIBUTE TO SHERRI WINDER

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Sherri Winder, a beautiful and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and excellent member of my staff. Sherri passed away on Sunday, September 11th, 2011 in a tragic car accident in southern Utah. We are all stunned by the sudden and devastating loss of this wonderful woman.

As a faithful employee, Sherri brought grace and style to everything that she did. She was an elegant lady. She was an extremely kind, caring, and selfless person. She was a faithful volunteer in her community and church. She made an immediate and profound impact in my office. My staff and I are each deeply affected by her loss.

I am honored to have been one of the many people touched by Sherri's kindness and generosity. Sherri lived the principle of gratitude—always expressing her appreciation to others and making them feel valued. Sherri was perpetually positive and instantly brought a smile to all those with whom she came in contact. Her love of life and sincere caring was contagious and welcomed by all.

Sherri was involved in politics for all the right reasons. She was the first volunteer in Jon Huntsman's 2004 gubernatorial campaign, she was a prolific grass roots organizer, organizing the efforts to incorporate Taylorsville as a city, and she was a stalwart employee serving all who needed assistance. Sherri simply wanted to help people and strengthen our community. She was known and loved by people all across the Salt Lake Valley. But no more so than by the five loving children she and her husband Kent raised together.

Sherri Winder leaves behind a legacy of service and gratitude. She is survived by her husband, Kent, and their five adult children, Mike and Karyn Winder, Aimee and Matt Newton, Tami and Tom Larsen, Nathan Winder, and Isaac and Candalynd Winder, as well as 11 grandchildren with one on the way.

On behalf of both my staff and the constituents of the Third Congressional District who were served so well by Sherri, I extend my deepest sympathies to Kent and his family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them during this most difficult time.

And although we mourn the loss of Sherri at this time, we will always celebrate her brilliant life, cherish her wonderful friendship, strive to emulate her amazing qualities, and work as she did to improve the world and community around us. She will be sincerely missed, but her profound legacy will never be forgotten.

SURFACE AND AIR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS EXTENSION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Surface and Air Transportation Programs Extension Act, which would authorize surface transportation programs through March and the Federal Aviation Administration through January.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the construction sector faced 13.5 percent unemployment in August. The programs we authorize in this bill create the projects to help put this industry back to work—to rebuild roads and bridges, renovate airports, and expand mass transit options. These are good jobs, here at home, that improve efficiency and economic competitiveness.

But this bill is not enough. We cannot continue short-term extensions and stop-gap